Aberdeenshire COUNCIL Environment and Infrastructure Services

REPORT TO SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE – 14 SEPTEMBER 2022

PUBLIC BODIES CLIMATE CHANGE DUTIES REPORT 2021-2022

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 This report is Aberdeenshire Council's draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report for 2021-22. This report is produced annually and is a mandatory requirement of all public bodies. It is for the consideration of the Sustainability Committee before its submission to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2022. Due to the deadline of submission and the Committee timetable clashing, it is being brought to this Committee as a working draft for consideration and comment. The final report will be brought back to the Committee on 30 November 2022 for noting.

1.2 The Committee is recommended to:

1.2.1 Consider and comment on Aberdeenshire Council's draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2021-22 and delegate authority to the Director of Environment and Infrastructure Services to submit the finalised report to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2022 following consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition Spokesperson (Appendix 1);

1.2.2 Note that the draft will be updated as more data and information is received from officers across the organisation and a final copy will be presented to the Committee on 30 November 2022 for noting; and

1.2.3 Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to sign the declaration in Part 6e of the report once the final draft is completed.

2 Decision-Making Route

2.1 The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 is a statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland. Included within the Act are the following requirements on public bodies in the exercising of their functions:

- Act in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Scotland's emissions reduction targets;
- Act in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme; and
- Act in a way that it considers most sustainable.

2.2 The Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 2015 require public bodies, including Aberdeenshire Council, to report annually on compliance with the climate change duties. The 2021-22

report is required to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2022.

3 Discussion

3.1 The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 which came into force on 9 November 2020 sets national emissions reduction targets as:

- At least 75% lower than the baseline year by 2030;
- At least 90% lower than the baseline year by 2040; and
- Net Zero by 2045 ('Net Zero' refers to achieving an overall balance between emissions produced and emissions taken out of the atmosphere).

3.2 Amendments made to the 2009 Act by the 2019 Act now apply to this report. The new reporting requirements for public bodies include the following:

- where applicable, a target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets;
- where applicable, any targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases;
- how the body aligns its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emissions reduction targets;
- how the body will publish, or otherwise make available, its progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets; and
- how the body is contributing to Scotland's Adaptation Programme.

3.3 Direct emissions fall under Scope 1 and are related to sources owned or controlled by the Council. This includes fuel use in fleet and heating fuels used across a number of services including the Council's operational buildings. Indirect emissions fall under Scope 2 and Scope 3 and are a consequence of the activities the Council undertakes. Scope 2 emissions are from the Council's purchased grid electricity. Scope 3 emissions come from the other areas of the Council's carbon footprint boundary. Currently the emissions reported on under Scope 3 cover internal waste, business travel, electricity transmission and distribution losses, water, and homeworking. There will be an additional requirement to consider other Scope 3 emissions out of boundary but through which the Council's influence could support reducing area wide emissions. Additional Scope 3 considerations are the Council's purchased goods and services, housing stock, staff commuting and school transportation contracts.

3.4 Aberdeenshire Council is already very well placed to demonstrate most of the additional requirements set out in paragraph 3.2. The development of the Route Map 2030 and Beyond has captured the gaps in the above reporting requirements ensuring that the Council will be complying fully with the Amendment Order.

3.5 Gaps requiring additional work ensuring that the Council will be complying fully with the Amendment Order are:

- Residual emission action plan including an organisational carbon footprint scope and target review; and
- Resilience/adaptation assessment.

3.6 Currently, Aberdeenshire Council does not have separate emission reduction targets for direct and indirect emissions. Consideration of the appropriate targets and any amendments or additions to the current targets is ongoing and will likely be added to the Carbon Budget 2023–2024 for consideration and approval by Aberdeenshire Council at the Budget setting meeting in 2023.

3.7 Aberdeenshire Council's draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2021-22 is included as **Appendix 1**. It requires to be submitted to the Scottish Government at the end of November 2022. The red font highlights the new questions which have been added in alignment with the Amendment Order (3d, 3da, 3db). The structure to question 4d has also changed but the Council's input remains the same.

3.8 In addition to the Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2021-22 a comparison of 2020-21 consumption data, emission factors and emission data with 2021-22 can be found in **Appendix 2**.

3.9 An overview of Aberdeenshire Council's annual progress towards its 75% reduction by 2030 target can be found in **Appendix 3**. Emissions have increased overall however that was to be expected as Covid-19 played a big part in driving down emissions in 2020/21.

3.10 Previous annual reports for Aberdeenshire Council submitted since 2014-2015 can be found here: Reports (sustainablescotlandnetwork.org).

4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

4.1 This Report helps deliver all of the Council's Strategic Priorities under the three Pillars by embedding the key principle of 'climate and sustainability' across Aberdeenshire Council.

Pillar	**Priority**
Our People	• Education • Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	• Infrastructure • Resilient Communities
Our Economy	• Economy & Enterprise • Estate Modernisation

4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial			X
Staffing			X
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland			X
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing			X
Climate Change and Sustainability			X
Health and Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

4.3 There are no direct staffing or financial implications arising from this performance monitoring report.

4.4 The screening section as part of Stage One of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process has not identified the requirement for any further detailed assessments to be undertaken. An IIA is not required as there are no direct implications of approving this Climate Change Duties Report for submission as it is a performance monitoring report from 2021-22.

4.5 The following Risks in the Corporate Risk Register have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:

- Risk ID ACORP010 as it relates to environmental challenges; and
- Risk ID ACORP006 as it relates to reputation management

The following Risk in the Directorate Risk Registers has been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level:

- Risk ID ISSR010 as it relates to Climate Change.

Mitigation of these risks could be addressed by sufficient communication and engagement on the progress Aberdeenshire Council is making with regards to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

5 Scheme of Governance

5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this Report and their comments are incorporated within the Report. They are satisfied that the Report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

5.2 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section R paragraph 1.1 (b) of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to Public Bodies Climate Change Duties annual reporting.

Alan Wood
Director of Environment & Infrastructure Services

Report prepared by Claudia Cowie, Team Leader Sustainability and Climate Change
Date: 31 August 2022

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Draft Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2021-2022 for Aberdeenshire Council
Appendix 2 - Comparison data from 2020/21 - 2021/22
Appendix 3 - Annual progress towards 2030 target (75%)

Appendix 1: Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2021/22 - Draft

PART 1: PROFILE OF REPORTING BODY

1(a) Name of reporting body – Aberdeenshire Council

1(b) Type of body - Local Government

1(c) Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year

10,360

1(d) Metrics used by the body
Specify the metrics that the body uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability.

Metric	Units	Value	Comments
Population size served	Population	260,780	Aberdeenshire Profile 2022 NRS 2020 data

1(e) Overall budget of the body
Specify approximate £/annum for the report year.

£657,000,000 (TBC after audit in Sept)

Comments

This total is net revenue expenditure for whole Council.

1(f) Report year
Specify the report year.

2021/22 (Financial Year)

1(g) Context
Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting.

Aberdeenshire is a predominantly rural area in North East Scotland and includes the Cairngorm mountains, rich agricultural lowlands and varied coastal landscapes. Traditionally economically dependent on the primary sectors (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing), over the past 50 years the development of the oil and gas industry has repositioned Aberdeenshire's economic focus.

Aberdeenshire is largely rural in nature, covering an area of 6,339km2 (8% of Scotland's overall territory). Its population density is 41 people per km2.
Aberdeenshire's population has increased by 4% since 2010-2020 making up around 5% of the Scottish population. In 2010 the population was 251,430.
The housing stock in Aberdeenshire is 120,140, an increase of 9% since 2010 and accounts for 5% of Scotland's total household stock. Source: NRS, Dwellings by Council Tax Band.
The large and rural nature of Aberdeenshire means that transport contributes significantly to the region's emissions. Many areas are also out with the mains gas network, relying largely on oil and electricity for heating.
Aberdeenshire is divided into 6 administrative areas (Kincardine & Mearns, Marr, Formartine, Garioch, Buchan and Banff & Buchan) (See Aberdeenshire Profile PowerPoint Presentation (aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

There are 62 towns and villages in Aberdeenshire with a population greater than 500 and six towns with a population greater than 10,000:

Settlement	**Population (2020 NRS)**
Peterhead	19,060
Inverurie	14,660
Fraserburgh	12,570
Westhill	12,110
Stonehaven	11,150
Ellon	10,070

Source: National Records of Scotland

Aberdeenshire Council as an organisation comprised of 4 Directorates:

Business Services

- Audit
- Support Services
- Customer and Digital Services
- Finance
- HR & OD
- Legal and People
- Commercial and Procurement
- Property and Facilities Management

Environment and Infrastructure Services

Planning and Economy
Housing & Building Standards
Roads and Infrastructure
Environment and Sustainability
Support Services

Education and Children's Services

ASN, Inclusion, Equity and Wellbeing
Children's Social Work
Cross Service
Live Life Aberdeenshire
Education and Learning

Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Adult Services
Commissioning, Procurement and Contracts (Social Care)
Criminal Justice
Health and Social Care Partnership
Older People Services
Social Care
Strategy and Business services

At the end of the financial year 2021/22 Aberdeenshire Council had 619 operational properties (5 fewer than 2020/21):

ABERDEENSHIRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP	Old People's Homes	8
	Respite Homes	3
	Hostels	14
	Day Centres	31
BUSINESS	Training Centres	3
BUSINESS – PROPERTY + FM	Offices	44

	Town Hall/Council Chambers	6
	Halls	19
	Public Toilets	59
EDUCATION + CHILDRENS - EDUCATION	Primary Schools	151
	Academy Schools	17
	Special Schools	4
	Stand Alone Nurseries	3
EDUCATION + CHILDRENS - LLA	Community Centres	38
	Sports Centres	7
	Libraries	36
	Museums/Visitor Attractions	11
	Swimming Pools	16
	Sports Pavilions	41
	Outdoor Centre	1
EDUCATION / CHILDRENS SERVICES	Children's Homes	4
	Family Centres	10
ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES – ROADS, LANDSCAPE	Caravan Sites	0
	Depots	48
	Stores	21
	Quarries	3
	Country Parks	4
ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES – PASSENGER TRANSPORT UNIT	Park and Ride	2

ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WASTE	Civic Amenity Sites	15

The Council also had 48 Industrial Estates/Business Parks including 720 non-operational buildings (shops and industrial units).

Key Facts: Emailed Neil Watts for Council Houses and Mark Gardner for other figures (from confirm- planning and car parks separate)

- Number of Council Houses – 13,083
- Refuse collection – number of properties serviced 125543 domestic properties
- Planning Applications registered – 2134 (full and in principle, of which 843 HH)
- Length of roads maintained (miles) - 3643 miles
- Number of bridges and culverts maintained - 1310
- Length of footway and footpath maintained (miles) - 1073
- Car Parks - 113
- Streetlights (units) - 52554 (Number includes –Bollards, Feeder Pillars, School Signs, Street Lights, Traffic Light Unit and Traffic Sign)
- Harbours - 7
- Burial Grounds – 224
- Play areas – 461
- Country Parks - 4

PART 2: GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

2(a) How is climate change governed in the body?
Provide a summary of the roles performed by the body's governance bodies and members in relation to climate change. If any of the body's activities in relation to climate change sit outside its own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify these activities and the governance arrangements.

Aberdeenshire Council's overall response to and management of its sustainability and climate change duties and commitments is currently based around a number of areas, including the following:

• **Policies and commitments** – for example, the Environmental and Climate Change Policy (2017) and Resources and Circular Economy Commitment (2019).

• **Initiatives, strategies and processes** – for example, Climate Ready Aberdeenshire, the Pollinator Action Plan and Carbon Budget (details below).

• **Member oversight** – the Sustainability Committee meets quarterly to oversee the Council's work and ensure duty compliance, with items considered by other Policy Committees, including Full Council, as required.

• **Officer support** – the Sustainability and Climate Change Team provide coordination, expertise and guidance. A new Sustainability Champions Programme is being rolled out and is engaging officers from across the organisation to become involved and represent their service.

Aberdeenshire Council has an Environmental and Climate Change Policy. The policy was a reaffirmed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive in February 2017. All information regarding climate change action by Aberdeenshire Council, including the Environmental and Climate Change Policy can be found on the Aberdeenshire Council Climate Change website.
https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/environmental-policy/

Carbon Budget - In 2017-18 Aberdeenshire Council became the first Local Authority in Scotland to develop and approve a Carbon Budget. The Carbon Budget was established with the aim of ensuring that an ongoing reduction in the Council's own emissions was managed and monitored alongside financial budgets and to encourage ownership of emissions across the organisation. The Carbon Budget is approved by Full Council in February/March each year at the Budget setting meeting. In March 2020 Carbon Budget targets for 2021/22 were set in line with a linear reduction in emissions towards a 75% reduction (from 2010-11 baseline) by 2030 and Directorates required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees and the Sustainability Committee.

Sustainability Committee - This Committee is responsible for matters relating to sustainable development and climate change. The following functions of the Council are delegated to this Committee:

a) To approve, review and monitor the Council's work in respect of sustainable development and climate change in order to ensure compliance with relevant statutory duties, with particular reference to the Climate Change Action Plan.

b) To respond, on the Council's behalf, to the Scottish Government and other relevant bodies regarding sustainable development and climate change issues, including reporting on Scotland's Climate Change Duties Report and the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.

c) To promote awareness of the need for sustainability within the Council and wider community of Aberdeenshire. Reports may also be considered by other Policy Committees, including Full Council, depending on content and remit.

See here https://aberdeenshire.sharepoint.com/sites/Arcadia/services/Documents/Abrdeenshire%20CLG%20Structure%20March%202022.pdf for a diagram of Council corporate leadership group.

2(b) How is climate change action managed and embedded by the body?

Provide a summary of how decision-making in relation to climate change action by the body is managed and how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. If any such decision-making sits outside the body's own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify how this is managed and how responsibility is allocated outside the body (JPEG, PNG, PDF, DOC). Provide a diagram to show how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. - Council Service Structure doc in section 1&2 folder.

In March 2020, Aberdeenshire Council approved its Carbon Budget for the 2020/21 financial year. This process has further imbedded Climate Change action throughout all services by placing responsibility for emission reductions to all Service Directors. The Carbon Budget contains projects throughout Council Services which will bring about emission reductions. Projects include renewables, energy efficiency in building stock and street lighting, electric vehicles (EVs), EV infrastructure, battery operated landscaping equipment, waste reduction and reuse initiatives, and behaviour change etc. Each of the four Council Directorates are now required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees and Sustainability Committee. This step further passes responsibility and decision-making around the Carbon Budget to the Directorates.

Decision making with regard to climate change action ultimately rests with the Strategic Leadership Team, Heads of Service and management structure of the Council, with the oversight from Elected Members. The Sustainability and Climate Change Team provide coordination, expertise and guidance to encourage and support decision-making in this area and the integration of sustainability and climate change duties and commitments into Council operations.

In 2021 the Council created an online Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) tool covering 5 areas: Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change and Sustainability, Health and Wellbeing, and Town Centre First. Climate Change and Sustainability guidance produced alongside the IIA supports report authors in their consideration, assessment and reporting of climate change and sustainability implications (positive, negative and neutral) when composing and submitting reports to all Committees for consideration. Report authors are asked to consider risks and actions related to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, biodiversity and general sustainability.

Climate Ready Aberdeenshire is a cross-sector initiative to create a regional Aberdeenshire Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy. It brings together the views and expertise of a range of diverse stakeholders from communities, public, private and third sector organisations, to set out how we can work collaboratively to meet the challenges of a changing climate within Aberdeenshire. Climate Ready Aberdeenshire is led by a Steering Group consisting of representatives from organisations throughout the North East of Scotland. The group is led by a Chair and Vice-Chair and supported by a project lead provided by the initiative's sponsor, Aberdeenshire Council. Some of the Steering Group members are also members of various Adaptation Scotland groups, including the Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking Working Group and Climate Adaptation Finance Working Group.

Aberdeenshire Council utilises events such as Scotland Climate Week, Earth Hour and World Earth Day to share communication around Climate Change every year. In partnership with many other organisations around the North East, the Council has been involved in developing an annual North East Climate Week in March. There are many events geared at raising public awareness and discussions around climate change as well as engaging communities and youth through our libraries and ranger led activities. The World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF) awarded Aberdeenshire Council a runner up 'Super Local Authority' for all the efforts to promote Earth Hour in March 2019.

2(c) Does the body have specific climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives in its corporate plan or similar document?
Provide a brief summary of objectives if they exist.

Wording of Objective	**Name of Document**	**Link**
We commit to working towards a carbon free society by reducing our emissions by 75% (against our 2010/11 baseline) by 2030 and become Net Zero by 2045.	Climate Change Declaration	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf
We will provide support and leadership to empower our communities to also take action and be resilient to the impacts of climate change.	Climate Change Declaration	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf
Offset all residual emissions generated which we cannot eliminate by 2045.	Climate Change Declaration	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf

Work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045, by promoting energy transition and a circular economy.	Climate Change Declaration	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25146/climatechangedeclaration.pdf
The six strategic priorities sit under three pillars which are: Our People, Our Environment, Our Economy. Underpinning the Priorities are a number of key principles. They are: right people, right places, right time; responsible finances; **climate and sustainability**; Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plans; human rights and public protection; tackling poverty and inequalities; digital infrastructure and economy.	Aberdeenshire Council Plan 2020-2022	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-plan/strategic-priorities/
Sustainability and Climate Change Commitment	Infrastructure Services Service Plan 2020-2022	Item 5 https://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Committees.aspx?commid=495&meetid=19533

2(d) Does the body have a climate change plan or strategy?
If yes, provide the name of any such document and details of where a copy of the document may be obtained or accessed.

A Route Map to 2030 and Beyond is currently under development and will go to Full Council for consideration and approval in September 2022. Add the link to the draft going to Sustainability Committee on 14/09/2022 or Full Council on 29 September 2022.

2(e) Does the body have any plans or strategies covering the following areas that include climate change?
Provide the name of any such document and the timeframe covered.

Topic Area	Name of document	Link	Time period covered	Comments
Adaptation	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017.	http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	To 2021	Adaptation is covered briefly in Section 18. A specific Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is proposed for development in the coming years.
Adaptation	Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan	https://www3.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/strategic-development-plan/	2020-2040	
Adaptation	Aberdeenshire Corporate Risks	http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-us/single-outcome-agreement-council-and-service-plans-and-reports/	2016 onwards	
Adaptation	North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17174/north-east-local-flood-risk-management-plan-2016-2022-web-version.pdf	2016-2022	
Adaptation	Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Plan District 2016-2022	https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/tay_estuary_and_montrose_basin_local_flood_risk_management_plan	2016 onwards	Includes part of Aberdeenshire.
Business Travel	Travel and Subsistence Procedure	http://arcadialite.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/TandSProcedure.pdf	2014 onwards	Refer to sections 1 & 4 for climate change/sustainability aspects.

Staff Travel	Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Delivery Plan	http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/03cfdce3-ae2d-47f9-ac25-1a6a41943b45/resource/cf088e2b-d413-4b5e-9aaa-4fb3631fb8aa/download/cusersspellascdocumentslev-delivery-plan.pdf	October 2018 onwards	Details actions to support update of LEV vehicles, in particular expanding the Council's charging network.
Staff Travel	Local Transport Strategy	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/2374/2012finallts.pdf	2012 onwards	To be refreshed during 2020/21 to align with revised Regional Transport Strategy and National Transport Strategy.
Staff Travel	Integrated Travel Town Masterplans	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/transportation/integrated-travel-towns/	2018 – 2023	Five year masterplans for Fraserburgh, Ellon, Huntly, Inverurie and Portlethen to promote active travel and develop new infrastructure.
Staff Travel	Office Space Strategy		TBC	Office Space Strategy under review – now called WorkSmart.
Staff Travel	Worksmart Policy	http://worksmart.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Website_Worksmart-Policy.pdf	2015 onwards	
Energy efficiency	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 – 2020	**Appendix 2**
Energy Efficiency	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.
Energy Efficiency	Office Space Strategy		TBC	Office Space Strategy under review – now called WorkSmart.

Fleet transport	Fleet Services Strategic Plan 2020-2030	http://committeesinternal.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=495&meetid=19808	2020-2030	Link provides update as provided at Infrastructure Services Committee.
Information and communication technology	Team ICT - Innovate Aberdeenshire	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/14808/element-3-item-008-innovate-aberdeenshire-digital-strategy-2015-2020.pdf	2015 – 2020	
Information and communication technology	PrintSmart	https://aberdeenshire.sharepoint.com/sites/Arcadia/services/Pages/Business%20Services/Customer%20Communication%20and%20Improvement/Design,%20Photography%20and%20Print/Printsmart.aspx	2015 onwards	
Information and communication technology	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 - 2020	**Appendix 2**
Renewable Energy	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 – 2020	**Appendix 2**
Renewable Energy	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.
Sustainable / Renewable Heat	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 – 2020	**Appendix 2**
Sustainable / Renewable Heat	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017-2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.

Waste Management	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 – 2020	**Appendix 2**
Waste Management	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.
Waste Management	Waste Strategy 2019 - 2023	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/waste-strategy/	2019 - 2023	This document replaces the Integrated Waste Management Strategy 2001 – 2020.
Water and sewerage	Climate Change Action Plan – Actions to 2020	http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=89323&action=GetFileFromDB	2016 – 2020	**Appendix 2**
Water and sewerage	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.
Land Use	Aberdeenshire Land Use Strategy Pilot Final Report 2015	http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/aberdeenshire-land-use-strategy-pilot	2015 -2020	
Land Use	Aberdeenshire Forestry and Woodland Strategy 2017	http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20174/8-aberdeenshire-forestry-and-woodland-strategy.pdf	2017 – 2021	Includes adaptation and mitigation and covers both Council-owned and managed land as well as other forests and woodlands.

Land Use	Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/	2017 - 2021	Now being replaced by an Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2022.
Other (state topic area covered in the comments)	Corporate Asset Management Plan 2015 - 2020	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17318/cam-plan-january-15.pdf	2015 – 2020	Management of roads and water infra-structure, housing, fleet and ICT.
Other (state topic area covered in the comments)	Resources and Circular Economy Commitment	https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/24872/resourcesandcircularеconomycommitment.pdf	2019 - onwards	Circular Economy.

2(f) What are the body's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead?
Provide a brief summary of the body's areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

1. Development and approval of a Route Map to 2030 and Beyond – this piece of work will identify what actions and investment need to happen within the Council in order to reach the 75% reduction target by 2030;

2. Development of a tool to include methodology which creates a carbon abatement curve (or similar) to support best value carbon reductions;

3. Begin the development of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES);

4. Determine how best to embed circular economy across Aberdeenshire Council and the region building on the Resources and Circular Economy Commitment; and

5. Assessing how the Council could further engage to 'work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045', as committed to in the Climate Change Declaration through Climate Ready Aberdeenshire.

2(g) Has the body used the Climate Change Assessment Tool (a) or equivalent tool to self-assess its capability / performance?

If yes, please provide details of the key findings and resultant action taken.

a) This refers to the tool developed by Resource Efficient Scotland for self-assessing an organisation's capability / performance in relation to climate change.

The tool was run in late 2017/18 by the Sustainability & Climate Change team. The following were the key findings:

- Adaptation – 5 steps and performance improvement.
- Communication of external reporting – do this internally, externally, develop a comms strategy and determine best way to reach most people.
- Committee reports to consider climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Develop a climate change champion programme.
- Devolve control of relevant emissions to operational area.

We have been addressing these as follows:

- Completed a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) 2011–2018, work ongoing to update the climate change risk register, strategy and action plan development through Climate Ready Aberdeenshire.
- Have developed a webpage to keep all up-to-date information on action regarding Climate Change and Sustainability within Aberdeenshire Council; created a separate Climate Ready Aberdeenshire webpage, use of Yammer for internal comms, internal newsletter etc.
- Creation of an online Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) which requires all reports to consider sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation impacts – negative and positive.
- After trialing a number of different pilots a Sustainability Pioneers and Champions programme has been developed for launch in 2022/23.
- The carbon budget process is devolving control of relevant emissions to operational areas. The Route map 2030 and Beyond development is also supporting this.

2(h) Supporting information and best practice
Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to governance, management and strategy.

As a Lead Local Authority for the North East Region, the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act introduces a more sustainable and modern approach to flood risk management, suited to the needs of the 21st century and to the impact of climate change.

A Net Zero Strategy for the Council's non domestic buildings is currently under development and will be approved by the relevant Policy Committee in 2022/23.

Aberdeenshire Council has been utilising support from the Circular North East project (funded by Zero Waste Scotland) to work strategically across Services to identify circular economy opportunities for the Council, building on the Council's pioneering Resources and Circular Economy Commitment. This work is now continuing with support from Zero Waste Scotland.

PART 3: CORPORATE EMISSIONS, TARGETS AND PROJECT DATA

Emissions:

3a Emissions from start of the year which the body uses as a baseline (for its carbon footprint) to the end of the report year.

Complete the following table using the greenhouse gas emissions total for the body calculated on the same basis as for its annual carbon footprint /management reporting or, where applicable, its sustainability reporting. Include greenhouse gas emissions from the body's estate and operations (a) (measured and reported in accordance with Scopes 1 & 2 and, to the extent applicable, selected Scope 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (b)). If data is not available for any year from the start of the year which is used as a baseline to the end of the report year, provide an explanation in the comments column.

(a) No information is required on the effect of the body on emissions which are not from its estate and operations.

(b) This refers to the document entitled "The greenhouse gas protocol. A corporate accounting and reporting standard (revised edition)", World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland / World Resources Institute, Washington DC, USA (2004), ISBN: 1-56973-568-9.

Reference Year	Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Carbon footprint	**2010/11**	37436	40159	8560	86155	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures. This includes amending

							waste emission factors to 2016/17 factor and including data from additional services we can now report.
Year 1 Carbon Footprint	**2011/12**	33899	36789	7712	78400	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.
Year 2 Carbon Footprint	**2012/13**	35922	39012	7848	82782	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.
Year 3 Carbon Footprint	**2013/14**	33415	36108	7742	77265	tCO2e	Back-cast using Carbon Budget analysis figures.
Year 4 Carbon Footprint	**2014/15**	34222	39857	7726	81805	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 5 Carbon Footprint	**2015/16**	35862	37112	6563	79537	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 6 Carbon Footprint	**2016/17**	34221	32243	7123	73587	tCO2e	A like for like on what we recorded this year compared to our baseline year (2010/11).
Year 7 Carbon Footprint	**2017/18**	32742	26817	7261	66820	tCO2e	This year we have included biomass wood chip and pellet tonnage. Also - Quarries switched

							from Red Diesel to Kerosene. This total has been amended after an error was found with in Scope 1 emissions (where double accounting took place). Previous Scope 1 total was 34274 and previous overall total was 68352.
Year 8 Carbon Footprint	**2018/19**	30990	20691	6289	57970	tCO2e	See amendments made to 2017/18 total in comments above.
Year 9 Carbon Footprint	**2019/20**	31313	18326	6048	55687	tCO2e	66tCO2e was found as double accounted for in 2019/20 emissions so this has now been removed from the Scope 3 total and overall total.
Year 10 Carbon Footprint	**2020/21**	26936	13141	5205	45282	tCO2e	The large reduction seen in 2020/21 is mainly due to Covid 19 restrictions and the change in the way of working across the organisation.

Year 11 Carbon Footprint	**2021/22**	30,928	13570	4914	49,412	tCO2e	Still require time scrutinise and finalise these figures.

3b Breakdown of emission sources

Complete the following table with the breakdown of emission sources from the body's most recent carbon footprint (greenhouse gas inventory); this should correspond to the last entry in the table in 3(a) above. Use the 'Comments' column to explain what is included within each category of emission source entered in the first column. If there is no data consumption available for an emission source enter the emissions in kgCO2e in the 'Consumption' column of one of the "Other" rows and assign the scope and an emission factor of 1.
(a) Emissions factors are published annually by the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy Emission Factor Year is 2021

Emission Source	Scope	Consumption Data	Units	Emission Factor	Units	Emissions (TCO2e)	Comments
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	53,918,367	kWh	0.21233	kgCO2e/kWh	11,448.5	Operational Buildings
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	53,918,367	kWh	0.01879	kgCO2e/kWh	1,013.1	Operational Buildings
Natural Gas	Scope 1	81,457,335	kWh	0.18316	kgCO2e/kWh	14,919.7	Operational Buildings
Gas Oil	Scope 1	7,485,830	kWh	0.25679	kgCO2e/kWh	1,922.3	Operational Buildings
Burning Oil (kerosene)	Scope 1	12,152,246	kWh	0.24677	kgCO2e/kWh	2,998.8	Operational Buildings
LPG	Scope 1	3,014,066	kWh	0.21449	kgCO2e/kWh	646.5	Operational Buildings

Biomass (wood chips)	Scope 1	1,485,892	kWh	0.01513	kgCO2e/tonne	22.5	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	Scope 1	7,201,610	kWh	0.01513	kgCO2e/tonne	109.0	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets) kWh	Scope 1	1,633,400	kWh	0.01513	kgCO2e/kWh	24.7	Operational Buildings - heat from third party
Water – Supply	Scope 3	301,456	m^3	0.11000	kgCO2e/m3	33.2	Water Usage
Water – Treatment	Scope 3	286,383	m^3	0.23000	kgCO2e/m3	65.9	Sewerage
Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	9,989,763	kWh	0.21233	kgCO2e/kWh	2,121.1	Street Lighting
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	9,989,763	kWh	0.01879	kgCO2e/kWh	187.7	Street Lighting
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	2,924,842	litres	2.51233	kgCO2e/ litres	7,348.2	Fleet Diesel
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	38,922	Litres	2.19352	kgCO2e/ litres	85.4	Fleet Petrol
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	598,674.49	Litres	2.51233	kgCO2e/ litres	1,504.1	Roads – Depot Diesel
LPG litres	Scope 1	743331	litres	1.55709	kgCO2e/ litres	1157.4	Roads - Quarries - total LPG purchased not

							necessarily used in 2020/21.
Gas Oil	Scope 1	1586	litres	2.75857	kgCO2e/ litres	4.4	Roads – Harbour
LPG	Scope 1	13181	litres	1.55709	kgCO2e/ litres	20.5	Roads – Propane
LPG	Scope 1	17514	litres	1.55709	kgCO2e/ litres	27.3	Landscape – Greenhouses
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	54539	litres	2.51233	kgCO2e/ litres	137.0	Landscape – Red Diesel
Refuse Municipal to Landfill	Scope 3	3188	tonnes	446.24150	kgCO2e/tonnes	1422.6	Internal Waste
Refuse Municipal/Commercial/ Industrial to combustion	Scope 3	4	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonnes	0.1	Internal Waste
Mixed Recycling	Scope 3	1371	tonnes	21. 29357	kgCO2e/tonnes	29.2	Internal Recycling
WEEE (Mixed Recycling)	Scope 3	27	tonnes	21. 29357	kgCO2e/tonnes	0.6	Internal Mixed WEE, Lamps, ICT
Construction (Average) Recycling	Scope 3	270	tonnes	0.98914	kgCO2e/tonnes	0.3	Internal Waste - construction
Organic Garden Waste and food waste -Composting	Scope 3	1572	tonnes	8.95070	kgCO2e/tonnes	14.1	Landscape Garden Waste, and internal food waste

Average Car – unknown fuel	Scope 3	7570394	km	0.17148	kgCO2e/km	1298.2	Business miles – car
Rail (National)	Scope 3	106084	Passenger km	0.03549	kgCO2e/passenger km	3.8	Business National Rail
Domestic Flight (average passenger)	Scope 3	24140	Passenger km	0.24587	kgCO2e/passenger km	5.9	UK Internal Flights
Short Haul Flights (average passenger)	Scope 3	3144	Passenger km	0.15353	kgCO2e/passenger km	0.5	UK-Europe Flights
Homeworking Emissions	Scope 3	27	percentage of total FTEs home-based	0.30000	tCO2e/FTE/annum	839.2	27% is the total estimate of the percentage FTE that were able to work from home, if required.
TOTAL						49,411.5	

3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Provide a summary of the body's annual renewable generation (if any), and whether it is used or exported by the body.

	Renewable Electricity		Renewable Heat		
Technology*	**Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)**	**Total exported (kWh)**	**Total consumed by the organisation (kWh)**	**Total exported (kWh)**	**Comments**
Solar PV	1,303,175				All power generated used internally other than proportion of Crow's nest.

Biomass			8,687,502	0	
Biomass			1,633,400		Heat consumed by Aberdeenshire Council, generated from Biomass by HoBESCo.
Solar Thermal					Solar thermal systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council.
Air Source Heat Pump					Air Source Heat Pump systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council.
Ground Source Heat Pump					Ground Source Heat Pump systems not metered - all heat used by Aberdeenshire Council
Landfill Gas CHP	(2020/21 data seems wrong, following up)	(2020/21 data seems wrong, following up)			Welfare facility utilising electricity generated on site by Microgen unit.

*These are the list of entries provided within the form that can be selected from the dropdown menu and the corresponding consumption / export data can be entered under the appropriate heading.

Targets:

3d Organisational Targets
List all of the body's targets of relevance to its climate change duties. Where applicable, targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases, overall carbon targets and any separate land use, energy efficiency, waste, water, information and communication technology, transport, travel and heat targets should be included. Where applicable, you should also provide the body's target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary / Scope of Target	Year used as baseline	Baseline figure	Units of baseline	Target completion year	Progress against target	Comments
Carbon emission reduction target	%	75	Total % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2010/11	86155	tCO2e	2030/31	49,411.5	Including a fair range of emissions but far from complete. For example, Scope 3 emissions associated with procurement not included.
Net Zero	%	100	Total % reduction	Other (please specify in comments)	2010/11	86155	tCO2e	2045/46	49,411.5	As above. The net zero target will also require options for sequestration.

3da How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets? Provide any relevant supporting information

The Route Map 2030 and Beyond demonstrates what is required across the Council's highest emission areas, including the costs in order to reach a 75% by 2030 target. Work will continue to be ongoing to identify further emission reduction and to calculate the estimated residual emissions which will require further work on insetting projects to mitigate and achieve Net Zero by 2045. (Link to Route Map once available - after 29th Sept).

In addition, work will need to begin on identifying further scope 3 emissions (for example, from the Council's Housing Service, school transport and through what the organisation procures). There are projects underway where identifying and reducing these scope 3 emissions are being developed and considered especially across the Council's Housing stock. In addition, discussions are currently underway on exploring opportunities to join up efforts/collaborate across the Grampian region (NHS Grampian, Councils and HSCPs in Moray, Shire and City) over the next couple of years to develop a coordinated approach for identifying and reducing scope 3 emissions. (Add more on this after meeting in September.)

3db How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, it's progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets? Provide any other relevant supporting information. In the event that the body wishes to refer to information already published, provide information about where the publication can be accessed.

Aberdeenshire Council has a public facing webpage titled Climate Change and Sustainability. On this page you can find out more about what the Council is doing to tackle climate change. Information can be found on: Carbon Budgets (since 2017/18), Climate change adaptation, Environmental and climate change policy, Resources and circular economy commitment, Transportation, Biodiversity and natural heritage, Procurement, Climate change declaration, Sustainability Committee, and a link to all of the Council's annual Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Reports since 2014/15. The page also has a graph showing emissions since the baseline of 2010/11 demonstrating progress towards the target of 75% by 2030. The Sustainability and Climate Change team email is also available should there be further support required on the information provided by those accessing the page.

https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/environmental-policy/

All progress is also made available through Committee reporting. Mainly through the Sustainability Committee (which can be viewed live by members of the public) and annually at the Aberdeenshire Council Budget setting meeting in February/March.

3e Estimated total annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the report year

If no projects were implemented against an emissions source, enter ""0"".
If the body does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown".
If the body does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A"."

Emissions Source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO_2e)	Comments
Electricity	152	Estimate: Replacement of old street lighting - reduced programme due to Covid 19, procurement and resource.
Natural Gas	0	
Other heating fuels	0	
Waste	10	Estimated: From continued use of the Warp-It portal.
Water and sewerage	0	
Business Travel	180	Estimated: Constraints on business travel and new ways of working

Fleet Transport	86	Hydrogen vehicles added to the Fleet, Electric vans replacing diesel, Utilising telematics – new Alison gearbox software.
Other (specify in comments)	0	

3f Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects to be carried out by the body in the report year

Provide details of the 10 projects which are estimated to achieve the highest carbon savings during report year.

Project Name	Funding Source	First full year of CO2e savings	Are these savings estimated or actual?	Capital Cost (£)	Operational cost (£ / annum)	Project lifetime (years)	Primary fuel / emission source saved	Estimated carbon savings (tCO2e/annum)	Estimated costs savings / annum (£)	Behaviour Change aspects including use of ISM	Comments
Street Lighting	Capital Programme	2021/22	Estimated	£1,600,000		5yrs project with 20 years savings.	Grid Electricity	380		N/A	Replacement of old HID street lighting – part of 5 year programme.

3g Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the report year.

If the emissions increased or decreased due to any such factor in the report year, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions ($tC0_2e$)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate Changes			
Service provision	1985	Increase	Recovery towards normal post Covid 19.
Staff numbers			
Other (specify in comments)			

3h Anticipated annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the year ahead

If no projects were implemented against an emissions source, enter "0".
If the body does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown" into the comments box.

If the body does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A" into the comments box.

Emissions Source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO_2e)	Comments
Electricity	200	Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency Framework (NDEEF) (400 total exact split TBC) - delayed from last year, will be complete by March-23
Electricity	228	Estimated: Replacement of old street lighting with LED units
Natural Gas	200	NDEEF (400 total exact split TBC) - delayed from last year, will be complete by March-23
Other heating fuels	220	Change from hot mix to warm mix of bitumen within the road service (may be moved to following year due to supply issues).
Waste	11	Estimated: From continued use of the Warp-It portal.
Water and sewerage	0	
Travel	Unknown	No specific projects with figures against them however, a reduction in travel is evident from a more flexible work environment and use of Teams for both internal and external meetings.
Fleet Transport	TBD	Introduce/trial more electric landscaping equipment - savings still to be determined (the pilot will have tracking information allowing for savings to be measured accurately).
Other (specify in comments)		

3i Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the year ahead.

If the emissions are likely to increase or decrease due to any such factor in the year ahead, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions ($tC0_2e$)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate Changes			
Service provision	3,105	Increase	Further post Covid 19 return to "normal" operations.
Staff numbers			
Other (specify in comments)			

3j Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body uses as a baseline for its carbon footprint

If the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings ($tC0_2e$)	Comments
Total project savings since the baseline year	36,743	Figure given is total reduction in recorded emissions from 2010/11 baseline year to current reporting year. Specific 'project' savings not identified so figure will include savings from reduced emissions factors and other organisational and external changes including impacts of Covid 19 restrictions.

3k Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to its emissions, targets and projects.

In 2017-18 Aberdeenshire Council became the first Local Authority in Scotland to develop and approve a Carbon Budget. The Carbon Budget was established with the aim of ensuring that an ongoing reduction in the Council's own emissions was managed and monitored alongside financial budgets and to encourage ownership of emissions across the organisation. The Carbon Budget is approved by Full Council in February/March each year at the Budget setting meeting and the process encourages Directorates and Services to consider emissions in their day to day work and to bring forward emissions reduction projects.

In March 2020 Carbon Budget targets were set in line with a linear reduction in emissions towards a 75% reduction (from 2010-11 baseline) by 2030 and Directorates required to report their Carbon Budget updates six-monthly to their relevant Policy Committees, which further passes responsibility and decision-making around the Carbon Budget to the Directorates. The Climate Change Declaration also sets the new target to 'work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045'.

The large reduction seen in 2020/21 was mainly due to Covid 19 restrictions and the change in the way of working across the organisation due to lockdowns. This reduction was not maintained in 2021/22 due to a number of factors: Continued guidance relating to ventilation and the challenges this imposed on heating building stock, Council operations resuming 'back to normal' with offices opening back up for hybrid working etc.

PART 4: ADAPTATION

4(a) Has the body assessed current and future climate-related risks?

If yes, provide a reference or link to any such risk assessment(s).

Yes. Aberdeenshire Council has a Climate Change Risk Register developed by a group of representatives from SEPA, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Flood Forum, Adaptation Scotland & Aberdeenshire Council, to assess current and future climate-related risks.

The Climate Change Risk Register was reviewed in 2018/19 by the Sustainability and Climate Change team and Risk Manager and updated to take into account the outcomes from the latest Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) which was published in 2019. This is the second LCLIP completed by Aberdeenshire Council and covers the period from 2011 to 2018 (formerly 2000 – 2010). The 2019 LCLIP can be found here: http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/ca4d686c-f8a8-4390-af0f-8088d2b536bb/resource/dbb94611-c5f0-492f-9ed1-a762fb0813bc/download/cusersspellascdocumentslclip2019final.pdf

The latest review of the Climate Change Risk Register was carried out by the Sustainability and Climate Change Officer and Risk Manager in 2020/21 following the formation of Climate Ready Aberdeenshire (CRA) and to ensure risks are in line with the latest climate projections for Scotland. Climate change is also identified as a risk within both the Corporate Risk Register and Directorate Strategic Risk Register and, following the 2020/21 revision, service managers were asked to ensure these, and other climate associated risks, are included in their appropriate Risk Register. A further review and update of the Climate Change Risk Register will be carried out in 2022/23.

4(b) What arrangements does the body have in place to manage climate-related risks?

Provide details of any climate change adaptation strategies, action plans and risk management procedures, and any climate change adaptation policies which apply across the body.

Aberdeenshire Council are the lead partner of Climate Ready Aberdeenshire (CRA), a cross-partner initiative to create a vision, strategy and action plan for Aberdeenshire to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impact while protecting our biodiversity. This is led by a Steering Group of public, private and third sector organisations and is using a place-based approach to support the region in adaptation and building resilience to climate change and extreme weather events. The Strategy and Action Plan is being developed and will be finalised in 2022/23. One of the outcomes of CRA is a regional Climate Change Risk Register to compliment Aberdeenshire Council's Climate Change Risk Register. Aberdeenshire Council are also devising an organisational Climate Adaptation Strategy to be completed during 2022/23 with an Action Plan. The Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking tool will be used to achieve this. The Sustainability and Climate Change Officer is also a member of Adaptation Scotland's Benchmarking Working Group.

Aberdeenshire Council have several risk management procedures and adaptation policies in place: Flood Risk Management Plans are in place, including Flood Prevention Schemes. In line with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, all services have Business Continuity Plans in place which cover their Critical Activities. These are not specific to extreme weather but could be used during such an event. Aberdeenshire Council and the Local Resilience Partnership have generic emergency response arrangements in place to cover extreme weather events. Environment and Infrastructure Services have an Operational Flood Plan in place, and Education and Children Services have protocols in place for school closures due to extreme weather.

4(c) What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?

Include details of work to increase awareness of the need to adapt to climate change and build the capacity of staff and stakeholders to assess risk and implement action. The body may wish to make reference to the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme ("the Programme").

CRA are working with community groups and have hosted public events to raise the awareness of the importance of climate change adaptation, increase the understanding of climate change risks, support decision-makers to make climate friendly and climate ready decisions, provide knowledge, advice and support and link businesses, community groups, public and 3rd sector organisations to resources, projects and funding opportunities. CRA and the University of Aberdeen have undertaken a study identifying climate change adaptation actions (current and planned) being undertaken by climate change community groups across Aberdeenshire. This allowed us to share this information across the groups and link them together, identify what matters to communities and businesses, where there are adaptation action gaps and how CRA and Aberdeenshire Council can provide
support.

Aberdeenshire Council are working to further embed adaptation, future proofing and resilience throughout services and communities. Some examples of actions already underway across services include:

Delivering Adaptation Actions:

- The Paths team are building more resilient, sustainable paths to an appropriate specification to deal with climate change.
- Greenspace Officers are continuing to work within Landscape Services reduce management intensity of Council owned/managed greenspace. These measures cut carbon emissions and boost biodiversity. Community engagement is key in the project and is on-going. To date, many areas of greenspace have had grass cutting reduced. Other measures include a significant reduction in the use of traditional bedding displays in favour of perennial planting or meadow seed mixes.
- The Aberdeenshire Council Pollinator Action Plan 2019 - 2021 identifies the work we will undertake to help address the significant threats facing pollinating insects, including the impacts of a changing climate. A new 2022 - 2027 Action Plan was agreed in Summer 2022.
- Council Housing stock are being upgraded to increase their resilience to extreme weather events and temperatures.
- The Bridges Service operates a bridge scour alert system so that any approaching severe rainfall weather patterns can be monitored prior to and during an event so that appropriate reactive monitoring and inspection action can be taken on a RED/AMBER/GREEN alert system. In addition, certain major bridges over major water courses have an emergency closure plan in place which will allow rapid closure if required using the Alert System described above.
- Flood studies have been completed for Ellon, Inverurie & Port Elphinstone, Insch, Stonehaven (coastal) and Ballater. These studies will primarily focus on direct defences, relocation of properties and property level protection, but other actions may also be considered in order to develop the most sustainable range of options.
- An Integrated Impact Assessment which examines the impacts of proposals on climate change adaptation has been introduced and requires consideration for every Committee report.
- Business-critical operational buildings having backup generators in case of power failure during extreme weather events.

Building Adaptive Capacity:

- Local Development Plans have identified climate change adaptation as an element of their vision and plans include flood risks and prevention.
- Officers from Aberdeenshire Council are working with partner organisations to adapt to climate change, assess risk and implement actions. This includes our Environmental Health Services working with SEPA to manage drought in the region due to higher temperatures and heat spells.
- A Sustainability Champions programme is being developed for staff to further embed adaptation actions across services. The programme is due to launch in Summer/Autumn 2022.

4(d) Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme?

Provide any other relevant supporting information

N-1: Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on the natural environment.

N1-8: Understand the risks associated with coastal flooding through development and implementation of local flood risk plans.

- Policies exist on avoidance of development in areas at risk from coastal flooding. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/
- Aberdeenshire Council as Lead Local Authority for the North East Local Plan District under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, published the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the North East in June 2016. Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 - Aberdeenshire Council

N1-10: Developing datasets to support flood risk, river and coastal management. A requirement of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act is to develop a programme to integrate necessary data.

- Working in partnership with SEPA, Aberdeen City Council and the James Hutton Institute, flood studies have been progressed. These have provided an opportunity to share data and hydraulic models with organisations such as SEPA to refine their Flood Warning Schemes.

N-2: Support a healthy and diverse natural environment with capacity to adapt.

N2-2: "The Scottish Planning Policy includes green networks, green space, street trees and other vegetation, green roofs, wetlands and other water features, and coastal habitats in helping Scotland to mitigate and adapt to climate change."

- Initial identification of green networks within major urban areas in Local Development Plan 2017 and additional settlements identified and reviewed for green networks on the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/

N2-7: "Reduce the pressure on ecosystems from invasive non-native species (INNS)."

- Aberdeenshire Council has worked in partnership with the River Dee Trust with LEADER funding to establish the North East Non-Native Species Project. The project provides a vehicle for information sharing and support for on the ground projects which will continue through an annual Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Forum. https://www.nennis.org/

N2-11: "Embed climate change adaptation considerations, and potential responses such as habitat networks and green networks, into wider land use planning decisions through the use of Forestry and Woodland Strategies, regional land use strategies, and Strategic and Local Development Plans and development master-plans."

- Aberdeenshire Forest and Woodland strategy published as supplementary guidance alongside Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017. Protective policies now in place to conserve woodland and other habitats from development. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/

N2-18: "Support the development of Local Flood Risk Management Plans. This will manage waters and coasts at a river catchment level and include local flood risk management plans."

- As part of the North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan, several flood studies have been completed and further studies will take place. These studies will take a sustainable and integrated approach by coordinating with the river basin management plan. Studies will be undertaken with due consideration to internationally, nationally and locally designated sites including listed buildings.
- They will also explore opportunities for enhancing biodiversity and for promoting economic activity and social wellbeing. The studies will consider natural flood management measures along with traditional flood defences by exploring opportunities for online and offline flood storage, flow control structures, modification to conveyance capacity of watercourses by sediment and channel management, modifications to the bridges to improve conveyance, the construction of direct defences, river/floodplain restoration, runoff control through catchment and riparian tree planting, land-use and land management changes, etc.
- Additionally, the studies will also consider property level protection and property relocation. It is expected that the recommended flood protection scheme will comprise a combination of such measures to ensure a sustainable and integrated approach to flood risk management by due consideration of impacts on economy, society, environment and cultural heritage.

N2-20: "Assess and manage coasts, promoting adaptive coastal management that works with natural processes."

- Locations where habitats are most vulnerable to coastal erosion and sea level rise have been used to inform debate on future land bids. Aberdeenshire Council are progressing the Stonehaven Coastal Flood Study. The study will take a sustainable and integrated approach by coordinating with the river basin management plan and the planned surface water management plan/study. It will be undertaken with due consideration to internationally, nationally and locally designated sites including listed buildings. It will also explore opportunities for enhancing biodiversity and for promoting economic activity and social wellbeing. The interactions between actions and effects on coastal processes along the shoreline will also be considered. The study will consider wave attenuation (beach management/recharge), coastal management actions (revetments), the construction of direct defences, relocation of properties and property level protection. Beach recharge will very often involve proposals to obtain the donor sediment from the low intertidal or shallow sub tidal zone in the vicinity. There are potential adverse effects on biodiversity, active coastal processes and even coastal flood risk if sediment extraction allows greater wave attack inshore. The flood protection study will ensure the proposed actions avoid or minimise the potential loss of natural habitat and detrimental interference with coastal processes. The flood protection study will consider how to avoid or minimise potential negative effects on the Garron Point Site of Special Scientific Interest to the north. It is

expected that the recommended flood protection scheme will comprise a combination of such measures to ensure a sustainable and integrated approach to flood risk management by due consideration of impacts on economy, society, environment and cultural heritage.
- Aberdeenshire Council will coordinate with SEPA, Scottish Water, SNH, The Crown Estate, Marine Scotland, Stonehaven Harbour and community groups as well as other relevant agencies and organisations.

B-1: Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on buildings and infrastructure networks.

B1-13: "Research to assess the benefits of property level flood protection products."

- Policies exist on avoidance of development in areas at risk from coastal flooding. Aberdeenshire Council as Lead Local Authority for the North East Local Plan District under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and published the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the North East in June 2016.

B-2: Provide the knowledge, skills and tools to manage climate change impacts on buildings and infrastructure.

B2-6: "Liaise with industry on thermal generation (generation of electricity from sources that create heat, such as coal, gas and nuclear)."

- Through a sustained 30-year programme of planned investment informed by a comprehensive and robust stock condition database, the housing stock will be modernised and adapted to meet the changing needs of tenants and those targets in relation to the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) and the Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing (EESSH). Appropriate information and support will be offered to tenants to encourage them to take upgrades. To help improve the energy efficiency of homes in the private sector the service will ensure that all households have access to services to identify possible energy efficiency improvements within their homes and will provide assistance to source any grants or schemes available to help with these measures. A Fuel Poverty strategic outcome statement and action have been developed in association with SCARF and other partners.
- The Housing Improvement Programme (HIP) in 2021/22, along with the reactive heating contract and Internal Wall Insulation at voids, have resulted in multiple properties with improved energy efficiency. 2,986 upgrades were carried out in 2,496 properties, so some had multiple works. These upgrades have contributed to an overall carbon emission saving of 778 tonnes of CO_2 per year. For properties where new upgrades have been installed the reduction in CO_2 emissions has been modelled based on data obtained from energy performance certificates (EPCs).
- There has also been a slight decrease in the overall running costs, from £6,165,260 (2020/21) to £6,132,223 (2021/22). This will mainly be down to the new heating systems, insulation and PVs that have been installed.
- The average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating of the stock is C70. This is based on actual EPC figures with some modelled data where new upgrades have been carried out and a new EPC not yet provided.
- The focus for 2022/23 is continuing to work towards the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESSH and EESSH 2). The contracts for EESSH are still ongoing and are focused on Insulation, Heating and Renewables in the continued drive to increase energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and eradicate fuel poverty. EESSH 2 contracts are being developed in the same form with a view to Net Zero. We will be working with Changeworks who will assist us in reaching these targets as fully as practicable.

- A trial project of Smart Solar Storage using batteries and Smart Technology with PVs is currently being undertaken and if successful could be extended. This will be useful when looking at the next target, EESSH 2, due to a potential increase in SAP rating with using batteries and further reductions in CO_2 emissions and running costs.

B3: Increase the resilience of buildings and infrastructure networks to sustain and enhance the benefits and services provided.

B3-3: "Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (Climate Change) identifies that short and long term impacts of climate change should be taken into account in all decisions throughout the planning system."

- The Local Development Plan 2017 is compliant with Scottish Planning Policy
  Also covered under B2-6.

B3-7: "The Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing sets a minimum standard for energy efficiency in social housing. All social housing will be expected to meet the standard by 2020."

- Please see relevant points under B2-6.

B3-8: "Improve Housing Quality by ensuring all houses meet the tolerable standard, and that all social housing meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) by 2015."

- Please see relevant points under B2-6.

S1: Understand the effects of climate change and their impacts on people, homes and communities.

- Climate Ready Aberdeenshire work to influence this in the future. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/environmental-policy/

S2: Increase the awareness of the impacts of climate change to enable people to adapt to future extreme weather events.

- Climate change issues are given a specific chapter within the current Local Development Plan. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/
- Aberdeenshire Council have a duty to raise public awareness of flood risk under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and to plan and inform of risks to communities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Over the six years of the Plan, 2016-2022, Aberdeenshire Council has sought opportunities to raise awareness of both flood risk and actions that enable individuals, homes and businesses to reduce the overall impact of flooding. In partnership with Education Scotland Aberdeenshire Council will look to engage schools in activities relating to flooding, extreme weather, climate change and other community resilience issues. Aberdeenshire Council will also develop emergency response plans and work with community flood action groups where these exist.
- Climate Ready Aberdeenshire work to influence this also. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/environmental-policy/
- Climate Ready Strathdon is a partnership project between Aberdeenshire Council and Adaptation Scotland aimed to bring together those who live and work in Strathdon, and those who make decisions that affect the area, to act together to build climate resilience. The

project outcomes highlight four themes that could be progressed in future: Housing and energy; Work; Transport; and Community Preparedness. Aberdeenshire Council aims to address these outcomes and help disseminate any lessons learned.

4(e) What arrangements does the body have in place to review current and future climate risks?

Provide details of arrangements to review current and future climate risks, for example, what timescales are in place to review the climate change risk assessments referred to in Question 4(a) and adaptation strategies, action plans, procedures and policies in Question 4(b).

The Climate Change Risk Register will be reviewed by 2022/23. The CRA Strategy will also be finalised in 2022/23 with an Action Plan which will consist of actions up until 2030. The Regional Adaptation Strategy, which is one of the outcomes of CRA, will be out in 2023 and reviewed annually, and the organisational adaptation strategy is due for completion in 2022/23. The Aberdeenshire Council procedures and policies examples given in 4(b) will be ongoing and continually monitored and reviewed. For example, current and future climate change risks in land use policy will continue to be evaluated through occasional papers designed to inform Local Development Plans.

Aberdeenshire Council is also the Local Authority Lead for Local Flood Risk Plans for the North East of Scotland which set out how risks will be managed between 2016 and 2022, and these plans will be reviewed.

Aberdeenshire will continue to collaborate with partner organisations and utilise information from organisations including SEPA, Adaptation Scotland and the James Hutton Institute's UKCP18 data as well as data from UK Climate Projections and UK Climate Change Risk Assessments.

The Council are also revising their overall approach to Risk and following initial consideration at Strategic Leadership Team our Elected members are being consulted on the revised approach via our Committees.

4(f) What arrangements does the body have in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions?

Please provide details of monitoring and evaluation criteria and adaptation indicators used to assess the effectiveness of actions detailed under Question 4(c) and Question 4(d).

Local Development Plans (LDP) are continually monitored and reviewed and a new LDP is published every 5 years. The 2022 LDP is at Stage 4 of the LDP process, where we anticipate seeking to adopt the plan in late October 2022. The Aberdeenshire Council examples given in 4(c) are monitored and evaluated by the relevant services using the required indicators.

The outputs from the Flood Protection studies will be considered in the national prioritisation process for Scottish Government funding, for construction as an action in the 2022 – 2028 Local Flood Risk Management Plan. Achievable actions identified in the Surface Water Management Plans for Aboyne, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Portlethen, Huntly, Stonehaven, Inverurie and Westhill will also be taken forward for consideration in Cycle 2. In the report the assessment of progress with actions is shown using the traffic light system. The actions that apply across the Local Plan District are marked as Red, Amber or Green: Green – action has been delivered is on programme and within budget; Amber – action is behind programme and/or over budget, but the key dates are still anticipated to be met; Red – action is behind programme and/or over budget, with key dates unlikely to be met and/or the outputs unlikely to achieve what was anticipated.

Aberdeenshire Council and CRA will also continue to use the Adaptation Scotland benchmarking tool to monitor and evaluate our actions and their effectiveness.

The Sustainability Committee will monitor and evaluate the impact of the adaptation actions moving forward.

4(g) What are the body's top 5 priorities for the year ahead in relation to climate change adaptation?
Provide a summary of the areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

1. Finalise the draft CRA strategy.

2. Reassess Aberdeenshire Council progress against adaptation by running the Adaptation Scotland Benchmarking Tool again.

3. Consider and action some of the outcomes of the Climate Ready Strathdon project.

4. Review the Aberdeenshire Climate Change Risk Register

5. Further embed adaptation, resilience and climate change risk into the organisation through supporting services, in particular with identifying and managing climate change risks to their services with support of the Sustainability Champions Programme.

4(h) Supporting information and best practice
Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to adaptation.

Further information can be found at https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/environmental-policy/

PART 5: PROCUREMENT

5(a) How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?
Provide information relating to how the procurement policies of the body have contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

The Council is guided by internal policy covering sustainable procurement and community benefits at a strategic and operational level, contributing positively and progressively to duties and commitments under Scottish Climate commitments. The policy is sufficiently agile to contribute to broader climate positive aspirations which support global energy transition, application of meaningful circular economy measures and a net zero future for Aberdeenshire. Strategic and practical guidance is provided at key stages: identification of need, specification development, selection/award and contract management. Policy/guidance assists procurers to proactively address key aspects of the duties: mitigation (ensuring reduction in greenhouse gases/enhancing carbon storage), adaptation (e.g flood prevention) and maximising added social, economic and environmental value in our procurements and national frameworks call offs.

The Commercial and Procurement Shared Service (C&PSS)

Embraces the procurement function in: Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and The Highland Council. 2017-2022 Joint Procurement Strategy fully aligned to: i) Scottish Model of Procurement (balance of quality, cost and sustainability) ii) National Performance Framework iii) Public Service Reform Agenda and iv) Scottish Government aspirations to: “support Scotland’s economic growth by delivering social and environmental benefits, supporting innovation and promoting public procurement processes and systems which are transparent, streamlined, standard, proportionate, fair and business-friendly”

The Council’s Procurement Mission Statement followed commits to delivery of “ethical and sustainable value for money solutions that support the operational needs and wider strategic aims of the councils and the communities they service to further local and national priorities to the fullest extent possible.” This converges with the National Performance Framework outcome “valuing, enjoying, protecting and enhancing our environment” and wider vision for the environment. Policy/strategy/guidance emphasises a commitment (beyond mandatory thresholds) to identify: “leverage opportunities (including social, economic and environmental value) aligned to the needs and priorities of our communities”

Policy

“The partner councils aim to act as a role model within the public sector by carrying out activities in a responsible and sustainable manner, considering how the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area can be improved by working with all sectors of the business community to achieve increased prosperity. As responsible and ethical buyers, the partner councils aim to embed the key principles of sustainability into procurement activity for the benefit of society, the economy and the environment.” The policy statement appears prominently in sourcing strategies and tender documents guiding procurers and bidders. Communication in this manner leads to climate

positive measures receiving early, considered focus resulting in higher quality, more innovative bids aligned to local priorities and climate change duties.

Policy/guidance explains not all sustainability measures are solely achieved through community benefits. Outcomes can be specified as contractual conditions e.g. particular eco standards (or equivalent), product composition and opportunities to introduce circular economy measures. Methods of production, lifecycle costing, environmental performance, reduction of packaging (particularly single use plastic) waste water standards/accreditation and production methods at any stage of the lifecycle of supply or service promoted. Example Climate Clause

Zero Waste Scotland Specification Development (Category and Commodity) guidance is promoted. Sustainable procurement measures achieved in the specification regarded as "community benefits" and procurers are encouraged to consider utilising community benefits and the specification to maximise environmental wellbeing.

Sustainability tools are promoted in policy and guidance: i) Sustainability Test, ii) Prioritisation Tool and iii) Lifecycle Impact Mapping. As with procurement strategy, linkages to The Scottish Model of Procurement; The National Performance Framework and Local Outcome Improvement Plans.

Policy/guidance recognises that Councils have influence and responsibilities beyond the geographic areas they serve. Sustainable procurement measures/community benefits can be captured at the following levels: Local (Council/area specific); National (Scotland/UK) or Global (e.g. fairly traded/ethically sourced goods/carbon emission reduction). Guidance prompts that many national strategic objectives are addressable locally (employment & skills, Real Living Wage, health and wellbeing, poverty, biodiversity, reduced road miles/reduced carbon emissions etc).

To simplify, sustainable procurement strongly recognised as a means of increasing prosperity. Prosperity of the (local) economy; Prosperity of (local) people; Prosperity of (local) places and Prosperity of the (local) environment.

5(b) How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?
Provide information relating to how procurement activity by the body has contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

The following represent illustrative samples of procurement activity i) delivering a reduction in CO2 ii) improving energy efficiency and iii) incorporating meaningful sustainability criteria:

- **Construction** – follows industry terms/best practice (NEC3, SBCC ICE etc), Building Standards/Building Performance polices. Specifications incorporate sustainability, energy and environmental considerations to a challenging but proportionate extent per project. Strong ethos that value for money demonstrated by whole of life costing/best price-quality ratio. Current and future climate

risks factored into procurement processes where relevant to safeguarding assets/infrastructure and communities. In the reporting period, procurer and supplier knowledge/awareness of circular economy principles and opportunities increased.

- **Managed Print Contract** (Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire) From original estate of over 5,000 unmanaged print devices (2016), contract systematically eliminated use of small, inefficient desktop printers requiring regular consumable replacement and rationalised to under 50% by 2018 to ENERGY STAR® power saving models. Supported by a Print Policy driving duplex and mono print as default with imperative to scan and move paper to digital to reduce resources and eliminate waste. Outcomes include reduced print volumes averaging 10% year on year, with estimated 270M fewer sheets of paper used since 2016 (the equivalent to 32,393 trees). Xerox Sustainability Calculator reports a 30% reduction in: Energy: (annualised BTUs), Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Annualised Pounds GHG) and Solid Waste (annualised Pounds SW.) From 2018 - 2022 CO2 emissions from electricity have reduced by approximately 13% and from paper by 50%. Contract ensures all removed devices governed via WEEE compliant processes. Used consumables managed through the Xerox Green World Alliance programme to recycle – minimising environmental impacts/maximising opportunities to positively contribute to the global circular economy agenda.
- **Energy from Waste** (Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire/Moray Councils) Construction of an Energy from Waste plant working towards fulfilling Zero Waste Plan requirements with the facility targeted to be operational by 2023. Facility aims to provides a long-term solution for non-recyclable waste produced in the North East of Scotland and will provide a viable solution for residual waste that will generate significant, wider benefits e.g electricity generation and heat for local residents as a sustainable means of reducing fuel poverty. Forecasts indicate plant will process circa 150,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste pa. Modern combustion technology utilises flexible, future-proof, cutting-edge process control. High temperature combustion provides electricity and heat from production of steam. Project has potential to heat 10,000 homes otherwise reliant on fossil fuels. Forecasts show around 12MW of electricity, and/or 20MW of heat as steam or hot water will be produced.
- **Fleet vehicles** – The new Fleet Services Strategic Plan 2020-30 sets decarbonisation aims and in 2021/22 Fleet have added two low level minibuses. Work is ongoing with the Energy Savings Trust to look at our Fleet and future options. Link to Fleet services strategic plan 2020 – 2030.
- **Stonehaven Flood Protection Scheme** - Stonehaven Flood Protection Scheme is an example of work across the Council to improve preparedness for future extreme weather events. Major flooding events over the last century have significantly impacted local residences and businesses within lower reach of the River Carron, Stonehaven. Major flooding events have occurred in Stonehaven over many years, most recently 1988, 1995, 2001, 2002, 2007, 2009 and 2012 which have caused the evacuation of nearby residents. The scheme will be designed with a long life, the impacts of climate change (predicted by the UK Climate Predictions (UKCP09) on flood flows have been considered. Construction work is progressing and due to be completed in 2022.

National Frameworks

- Via participation in User Intelligence Groups, the Council works in close collaboration with Scotland Excel (SXL) to improve sustainability credentials in the development of new national frameworks. Comprehensive sustainability test carried out by SXL for

each new framework e.g policies on managing waste, minimising carbon footprint, fair work, innovation and commitments to delivering community benefits explored and subject to robust contract/supplier management.

- Extensive use made of national frameworks. SXL Contracts Register lists each operative framework and contains a summary of sustainability considerations representing a **minimum** standard which can be enhanced through purchasing decisions made in "call offs". In any framework involving delivery of supplies, increasingly superior emissions class of vehicles/willingness to work towards a particular standard during engagement promoted. Food related frameworks incorporate reduced packaging/waste and circular economy principles.
- **Scottish Government Frameworks and Contracts** cover a wide range of goods and services. Sustainability standards represent a **minimum** which can be enhanced through purchasing decisions made in "call offs."

Utilities

- **Electricity** - Promoting greener power, Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificates at fixed rates; range of Energy Efficiency Services as additional services and opportunities to sell energy back to the grid.
- **Natural Gas** – sustainable measures and energy performance guarantee option to ensure a range of energy conservation measures.
- **Water** – intelligent water management programme for reducing usage with associated reduction in CO2.

5(c) Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to procurement.

In the reporting period, the Commercial and Procurement Shared Service (CPSS) continued to engage actively and positively in the net zero/sustainable procurement agenda at a local, regional and national level e.g. via working groups, User Intelligence Groups and statutory consultations. Options continued to be challenged in cross-functional teams e.g. Climate Friendly criteria options (including appraisal of carbon calculator tools) and assessment of how impacts can be reliably monitored and reported upon. Internally, CPSS continue to contribute to themed corporate climate groups. Activity feeds into the Climate Change Plan supporting enabling actions to integrate actions into systems/processes, build internal and supplier awareness, knowledge and capacity building of climate positive/circular economy principles.

An **Example Climate Clause 2021-2022** evolved to encourage suppliers to explore the Edinburgh Science Net Zero Toolkit (https://thenetzerotoolkit.org/about/) as a free resource to support their own journeys to a net zero future. The reach of the toolkit amplified via the Supplier Development Programme (https://www.sdpscotland.co.uk/), relationships with Edinburgh Science and the Supplier Development Programme deepened in the reporting period and CPSS instrumental in the development of an ambassador programme.

Contributions also made to the Climate &Procurement Forum and Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce “Circular North-East” initiative.

Despite the continued impacts of Covid 19, significant community benefit outcomes have been secured in the reporting period. Guided by the Council’s Sustainable Procurement and Community Benefits Policy, **847** community benefit outcomes were imposed or delivered during 2021/2022 (including 800 hours of community support committed, £20,00 committed to local charitable causes and commitment to 8 foodbank collections over a 4-year period) in regulated contracts. The realisation of the benefits are in process or were delivered fully in the reporting period. In regulated contracts, this represents a community benefits inclusion rate of 96% and an inclusion rate of 91% in respect of fair work criteria.

Strategic and practical guidance covers key stages: identification of need, specification development, selection/award and contract management. Policy/guidance assists procurers to proactively address key aspects of the duties: mitigation (ensuring reduction in greenhouse gases/enhancing carbon storage), adaptation (e.g. flood prevention) and maximising added social, economic and environmental value in our procurements. A significant and increasing number of outcomes relate to “environmental measures” promoting the Council’s leadership role in net zero transition. Community benefits continue to evolve and improve in close alignment to Aberdeenshire Council’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan and National Performance Framework. Great care is taken to ensure that requirements do not inadvertently create bidder discrimination and bids evaluated fairly on a “like for like” basis.

Forward pipeline of procurements for Financial Year 2022-2023 reviewed opportunities to include climate friendly criteria identified. Projects reviewed on a continuous basis. Systems options will be reviewed with a view to adopting a system to monitor, measure and report on community benefits, Fair Work, sustainability/climate outcomes achieved.

Go Awards Scotland- CPSS were finalists in three categories in a ceremony held on 19 April 2022: Social Value Award – City Region Deal Gigabyte Framework (outright winner) Covid 19 Outstanding Response Award - (Finalist) and Procurement Team of the Year (Finalist)

Effective Collaboration/Partnership Working - CPSS has strengthened relationships with Edinburgh Science, the Supplier Development Programme, community planning partners, the local business community, local third sector interface organisations, and Senscot to raise awareness of and capability within the third sector regarding sustainable procurement/community benefits/net zero. Approach ensures as far as possible, social value is aligned to community priorities. If social/economic value can be supported by the local third sector, this allows increased scope for procurers and suppliers to address “environmental measures” and the net zero agenda.

PART 6: VALIDATION AND DECLARATION

6(a) Internal validation process

Briefly describe the body's internal validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The Sustainability Committee has reviewed and validated this report – awaiting confirmation of this statement at 14/09/2022 committee meeting

6(b) Peer validation process

Briefly describe the body's peer validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

This report was peer reviewed by the Sustainability & Climate Change team within – Environment and Sustainability. (Still need to complete review)

6(c) External validation process

Briefly describe the body's external validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A

6(d) No validation process

If any information provided in this report has not been validated, identify the information in question and explain why it has not been validated.

N/A

6(e) Declaration

I confirm that the information in this report is accurate and provides a fair representation of the body's performance in relation to climate change.

Name: Jim Savege – awaiting confirmation of this signoff at 14/09/2022 committee meeting
Role in the body: Chief Executive
Date: 30/11/2022

Appendix 2 – Comparison Data from 2020/21 – 2021/22

Emission Source	Consumption Data 2020/21	Consumption Data 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emission Factor 2020/21	Emission Factor 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emissions (tCO2e) 2020/21	Emissions (tCO2e) 2021/22	Difference	Comments
Grid Electricity (generation)	45602630	53918367	18.2%	kWh	0.23314	0.21233	-8.9%	kgCO2e/ kWh	10632	11448.5	7.7%	Operational Buildings
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	45602630	53918367	18.2%	kWh	0.02005	0.01879	-6.3%	kgCO2e/ kWh	914	1013.1	10.8%	Operational Buildings
Natural Gas	73978042	81457335	10.1%	kWh	0.18387	0.18316	-0.4%	kgCO2e/ kWh	13602	14919.7	9.7%	Operational Buildings
Gas Oil	6651007	7485830	12.6%	kWh	0.25672	0.25679	0.0%	kgCO2e/ kWh	1708	1922.3	12.5%	Operational Buildings
Burning Oil (kerosene)	12152246	12152246	0.0%	kWh	0.24666	0.24677	0.0%	kgCO2e/ kWh	2998	2998.9	0.0%	Operational Buildings
LPG	2549734	3014066	18.2%	kWh	0.21448	0.21449	0.0%	kgCO2e/ kWh	547	646.5	18.2%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood chips)	2655432	1485892	-44.0%	kWh	0.01545	0.01513	-2.1%	kgCO2e/ kWh	41	22.5	-45.1%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	6882000	7201610	4.6%	kWh	0.01545	0.01513	-2.1%	kgCO2e/ kWh	106	109	2.8%	Operational Buildings
Biomass (wood pellets)	1713000	1633400	-4.6%	kWh	0.01545	0.01513	-2.1%	kgCO2e/ kWh	27	24.7	-8.5%	Operational Buildings - heat from third party
Water – Supply	471933	301,456	-36.1%	m^3	0.11	0.11	0.0%	kgCO2e/ m3	52	33.2	-36.2%	Water Usage

Emission Source	Consumption Data 2020/21	Consumption Data 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emission Factor 2020/21	Emission Factor 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emissions (tCO2e) 2020/21	Emissions (tCO2e) 2021/22	Difference	Comments
Water – Treatment	448336	286383	-36.1%	m^3	0.23	0.23	0.0%	kgCO2e/ m3	103	65.9	-36.0%	Sewerage
Grid Electricity (generation)	10644949	9989763	-6.2%	kWh	0.23314	0.21233	-8.9%	kgCO2e/ kWh	2482	2121.1	-14.5%	Street Lighting
Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	10644949	9989763	-6.2%	kWh	0.02005	0.01879	-6.3%	kgCO2e/kWh	213	187.7	-11.9%	Street Lighting
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	2597995	2924842	12.6%	litres	2.54603	2.51233	-1.3%	kgCO2e/ litres	6615	7348.2	11.1%	Fleet Diesel
Petrol (average biofuel blend)	34845	38922	11.7%	Litres	2.16802	2.19352	1.2%	kgCO2e/ litres	76	85.4	12.4%	Fleet Petrol
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	235337	598674	154.4%	Litres	2.54603	2.51233	-1.3%	kgCO2e/ litres	599	1504.1	151.1%	Roads – Red Diesel
LPG litres	309518	743331	140.2%	Litres	1.55537	1.55709	0.1%	kgCO2e/ litres	481	1157.4	140.6%	Roads - LPG Quarries
Gas Oil	1568	1586	1.1%	litres	2.75776	2.75857	0.0%	kgCO2e/ litres	4	4.4	10.0%	Roads – Harbour
LPG	8528	13181	54.6%	kWh	1.55537	1.55709	0.1%	kgCO2e/ kwh	13	20.5	57.7%	Roads – Propane

Emission Source	Consumption Data 2020/21	Consumption Data 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emission Factor 2020/21	Emission Factor 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emissions (tCO2e) 2020/21	Emissions (tCO2e) 2021/22	Difference	Comments
LPG	5609	17514	212.2%	litres	1.55537	1.55709	0.1%	kgCO2e/ litres	9	27.3	203.3%	Landscape – Greenhouses
Diesel (average biofuel blend)	43829	54539	24.4%	litres	2.54603	2.51233	-1.3%	kgCO2e/ litres	112	137	22.3%	Landscape – Red Diesel
Refuse Municipal to Landfill	2641	3188	20.7%	tonnes	437.372	446.2415	2.0%	kgCO2e/ tonnes	1155	1422.6	23.2%	Internal Waste
Refuse Municipal/Commercial/ Industrial to combustion	4	4	0.0%	tonnes	21.317	21.29356589	-0.1%	kgCO2e/ tonnes	0.1	0.1	0.0%	Internal Waste
Mixed Recycling	1238	1371	10.7%	tonnes	21.317	21.29356589	-0.1%	kgCO2e/ tonnes	26	29.2	12.3%	Internal Recycling
WEEE (Mixed Recycling)	136	27	-80.1%	tonnes	21.317	21.29356589	-0.1%	kgCO2e/ tonnes	3	0.6	-80.0%	Internal Mixed WEE, Lamps, ICT
Construction (Average) Recycling	NA	270	NA	tonnes	NA	0.98914	NA	kgCO2e/ tonnes	NA	0.3	NA	Internal Waste – construction (new this year)
Organic Garden Waste and food waste -Composting	1575	1572	-0.2%	tonnes	10.204	8.950697674	-12.3%	kgCO2e/ tonnes	16	14.1	-11.9%	Landscape Garden Waste and arisings

Emission Source	Consumption Data 2020/21	Consumption Data 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emission Factor 2020/21	Emission Factor 2021/22	Difference	Unit	Emissions (tCO2e) 2020/21	Emissions (tCO2e) 2021/22	Difference	Comments
Average Car – unknown fuel	5277248	7570394.4	43.5%	Miles	0.1714	0.17148	0.0%	kgCO2e/mile	905	1,298.2	43.4%	Business miles - car
Rail (National)	60796	106084	74.5%	Passenger km	0.03694	0.03549	-3.9%	kgCO2e/ passenger km	2	3.8	90.0%	Business National Rail
Domestic Flight (average passenger)	35464	24140	-31.9%	Passenger km	0.2443	0.24587	0.6%	kgCO2e/ passenger km	9	5.9	-34.4%	UK Internal Flights
Short Haul Flights (average passenger)	5626	3144	-44.1%	Passenger km	0.15553	0.15353	-1.3%	kgCO2e/ passenger km	1	0.5	-50.0%	UK-Europe Flights
Homeworking Emissions	57	27	-52.6%	percentage of total FTEs home-based	0.3	0.3	0.0%	tCO2e/FTE/ annum	1805	839.2	-53.5%	%FTE staff WFH
TOTAL									**45256**	**49412**	**9.2%**	**-4156**

Appendix 3. Annual progress towards 2030 target (75%):

Annual progress towards 2030 target (75%):

Financial Year	Actual Emissions Reported (tCO2e)	Carbon Budget Required to reach Target (tCO2e)
2010/11	86,155	86,155
2011/12	78,400	82,924
2012/13	82,782	79,693
2013/14	77,265	76,462
2014/15	81,805	73,231
2015/16	79,537	70,000
2016/17	73,587	66,769
2017/18	66,802	63,538
2018/19	57,992	60,307
2019/20	55,687	57,076
2020/21	45,282	53,845
2021/22	**Still to be confirmed – currently 49,412**	**50,614**
2022/23	Determined 11/2023	47,383
2023/24	Determined 11/2024	44,152
2024/25	Determined 11/2025	40,921
2025/26	Determined 11/2026	37,690
2026/27	Determined 11/2027	34,459
2027/28	Determined 11/2028	31,228
2028/29	Determined 11/2029	27,997
2029/30	Determined 11/2030	24,766
2030/31	Determined 11/2031	21,539